

Appl. No. 10/586,871
Amdt. dated April 7, 2010
Responsive to Notice of Allowance of March 22, 2010

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A high-pressure pump for a fuel injection system of an internal combustion engine, the pump comprising

a housing with at least one pump element including a pump piston driven into a stroke motion by a drive shaft;

the pump piston being guided so that it can slide in a cylinder bore of a housing part and delimiting a pumping chamber therein;

a support element supporting the pump piston against the drive shaft;

a prestressed return spring acting on both the pump piston and the support element in the direction toward the drive shaft; [[,]]

a receptacle contained in the same housing part that contains the cylinder bore; [[,]]

the housing part comprising an extension that is at least approximately cylindrical, is oriented toward the drive shaft, and contains the cylinder bore and the receptacle, an end of the cylinder bore oriented toward the drive shaft terminates at a plane containing a wall of the receptacle;

Appl. No. 10/586,871
Amdt. dated April 7, 2010
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the receptacle being embodied in the form of at least one slot in the extension of the housing part extending to an end surface of the extension oriented toward the drive shaft, the at least one slot being delimited by two walls extending at least approximately parallel to each other;

the support element being embodied as at least approximately rectangular in cross section and situated in the receptacle between the two walls of the slot; and

the support element being guided so that it can slide between the two walls of the at least one slot in the receptacle in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the pump piston, but cannot rotate around the longitudinal axis.

Claim 11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Previously presented)** The high-pressure pump according to claim 29, wherein the receptacle is embodied in the form of at least one slot provided in the housing part.

Claim 13. **(Canceled)**

14. **(Previously presented)** The high-pressure pump according to claim 29, wherein the support element is embodied as at least approximately rectangular in cross section.

Claims 15-20. **(Canceled)**

Appl. No. 10/586,871
Amdt. dated April 7, 2010
Responsive to Notice of Allowance of March 22, 2010

21. **(Previously presented)** The high-pressure pump according to claim 10, wherein the return spring is a helical compression spring encompassing the extension of the housing.

Claims 22-27. **(Canceled)**

28. **(Previously presented)** The high-pressure pump according to claim 10, wherein the return spring is supported at least indirectly against the support element; and wherein the pump piston is coupled to the support element in the direction of its longitudinal axis.

29. **(Currently amended)** A high-pressure pump for a fuel injection system of an internal combustion engine, the pump comprising

a housing with at least one pump element including a pump piston driven into a stroke motion by a drive shaft;

the pump piston being guided so that it can slide in a cylinder bore of a housing part and delimiting a pumping chamber therein;

a support element supporting the pump piston against the drive shaft;

a prestressed return spring acting on both the pump piston and the support element in the direction toward the drive shaft; [[,]]

a receptacle contained in the same housing part that contains the cylinder bore; [[,]]

the housing part comprising an extension that is at least approximately cylindrical, is oriented toward the drive shaft, and contains the cylinder bore and the receptacle, an end of

Appl. No. 10/586,871
Amdt. dated April 7, 2010
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the cylinder bore oriented toward the drive shaft terminates at a plane containing a wall of the receptacle, the support element being guided so that it can slide in the receptacle in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the pump piston, but cannot rotate around the longitudinal axis, and

the return spring being a helical compression spring encompassing the extension of the housing part.

30. **(Previously presented)** The high-pressure pump according to claim 29, wherein the return spring is supported at least indirectly against the support element; and wherein the pump piston is coupled to the support element in the direction of its longitudinal axis.